The A. F. of L. Weekly News Letter contains a brief summary of important matters affecting labor, securing in the industrial, legislative, and judicial fields, and such other information that will benefit the trade union movement.

AMERICAN FEDERATION OF LABOR

WEEKLY NEWS SERVICE

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AGITATE! EDUCATE! ORGANIZE!

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BLANTON'S "FAME" SAFE, FIRST TO FACE EXPULSION

Washington, Oct. 29.—Congressman Blanton, the rabid anti-union representative from Texas, has "immortalized" himself. He is the first member of the American congress to face expulsion.

There have been several instances in the history of congress where members have been censured for the anti-union war dancer from Texas is the first to be held up as guilty of violating the confidence of the house and is being unworthy to be a member of that body.

Congressman Mondell introduced the resolution of expulsion, which is based on Blanton's insertion of obscene language in the Congressional Record.

Recently Blanton asked the house for permission to extend his own remarks in the Congressional Record "upon the improvement in the government printing office." Following the usual custom, no objection was made. In these quarters the member has a free hand in inserting matter in the Record, which he may afterward print as pamphlet form and circulate under his frank.

Blanton's "remarks" proved to be his stereotyped harangue against organized labor, with which he attempted to "prove" his case against organized labor.

Blanton's little mind and his lack of judicial balance was never more clearly revealed than when he took to task the Record, issue of October 22. The following day on a motion to expunge the objectionable matter was adopted by a vote of 214 to 7, Blanton casting the only vote. The temper of the house was swown by its refusal to permit him to speak on the motion. Not a member of the house defended or excused him.

Some of the oldest members and attendants in congress declare that Blanton is the most unpopular member within their recollection.

He is not a fair fighter. He will object to the smallest detail that may be passed without a vote if no member is present. On routine matters he will raise the point of no quorum and force a roll call, which consumes half an hour. As his name is among the first to be called, he then rises from the floor of the house to write his constituents that he is "on the job."

He was never known to be interested in constructive legislation or even in any activities relating to fundamental questions. He is only recognized by his outrageously silly stuff that the average man ignores.

Recently he wrote the newspapers in his district that he was considering a single-handed fight against the Japanese exclusion act made to our railroad rates the deficiency bill was before congress. When these newspapers reached Washington he was hooted by the house and told that if the members wanted to raise their salaries he could be counted with him on the country with one of the largest percentages of ludicrous failures in its history. There were explanations for these deficiencies. It is true, but no where have explanations for the deficiencies during federal control.

"Take the case of labor. The impression has been spread broadcast that the increases in railroad wages during federal control were the product of intrigue and political pressure. The facts are that the major increases were made by the recommendation of a bipartisan board of arbitration headed by Franklin K. Lane, which thoroughly considered both sides. Following federal control the wages were further judicially reviewed by the labor board created by the Esch-Cummins act, and the result was a further increase of about 21 per cent built upon the increases granted during federal control. In its report the labor board said:

"It has been found by this board generally that the scale of wages paid railroad employees is substantially the result of the law of supply and demand, that is, the relation between the number of men seeking work in outside industry, that the labor is living—and since the effective date of general order No. 13, and its supplements has thrown large numbers out of employment, and the maintenance of an essential industry in an efficient condition require a reasonable relation between the wages of railroad employees and those of all classes."

"Since that time the wages have been reduced 12 per cent. Furthermore, I call your attention to the fact that the increases in railroads, which have been the subject of so much unjustified standard, comment, were entered into during the director generalship of Walker D. Hines, who is established in integrity and conceded ability, who has proven his patriotism and who stood perhaps the foremost spokesman of the railroad industry.

"Prices rose prior to federal control more than wages, and I do not undertake to say that a reasonable relation between the two may not be necessary for the good of the country. I have not heard both sides, and am not by job to suggest, however, that if such a relationship which is necessary labor is entitled to a seat at the council table when it is discussed, and it should be given a fair consideration that it, has no less interest in its welfare than capital, and no greater degree of selfishness than shippers or captains of industry.

"Neither but ill will and contention is to be gained by a policy of unreasonable reduction in disregard of the essential facts. I further suggest that it is self-evident at least that the scale of wages can be fairly or profitably built upon the basis of the cost of work in a period of unemployment are willing to take as an alternative to starvation."

TAX DODGING PLAN STRIKES SNAG; ONE SENATOR HINTS DECEPTION

Washington, Oct. 29.—By a vote of 35 to 30 the senate rejected a plan that would permit big business to exploit the cheapest labor in the world, secure the protection of the American army and navy in these distant lands and be exempt from American income, corporation, or other taxes.

The scheme was included in the new revenue bill, which has passed the house, and provided that after an American corporation does 80 per cent of its business abroad it is exempt from taxes in the United States.

Advocates of the plan said this was the practice of European nations, and that American business men should be placed on the same footing, that they could successfully compete with foreign interests.

After the bill was defeated Senator Simmons diplomatically charged that treachery was used by the tax exemption advocates.

He said the only reason the senate could have rejected the plan favor of the bill was that it would equalize competition with other countries but now it is found that the only nation that permits this exemption is Great Britain, which "is making it hot to have granted some sort of a concession in the case of corporations doing business in China."

It was shown that the plan would permit corporations to control the American export trade, amounting to $11,000,000,000, make enormous profits and pay nothing upon these profits into the American treasury.

The author of the bill really advanced the strongest argument against it. This measure may be "hoped" it would not result in sending American capital, American engineers and American companies into countries where they could, by using cheap labor, compete with American concerns.

The plan was so daring and so all-inclusive that it staggered the senators, even though they are versed in the methods of financial chicanery.

Under the present law big business may open branches in foreign countries and form a foreign trade can corporation, but it must pay taxes on its profits to the United States. It can evade these taxes by incorporating under the laws of the foreign country, but it debars them from calling on the United States government when in difficulty with the authorities of the populace of that country.

The fight reopened may be an inducement for big business to invest in cheap-labor countries without the protection of the army and American export trade, amounting to $11,000,000,000, make enormous profits and pay nothing upon these profits into the American treasury.

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WAR GRAFTERS SAFE AFTER ARMISTICE DAY

Washington, Oct. 29.—There will be no prosecution of the profiteers of the nation mourns at the interment of the unknown American soldier today on Armistice day, November 11. After that date the grafters will be immune from prosecution by the statute of limitation.

A few weeks ago attention was called to the probability of the grafters escaping, and much talk was had about rushing a bill through congress extending the statute of limitation from three years to five years. The matter was dropped, however, but Attorney General Daugherty was advised at that time that he could not journey to Cincinnati and tell the American legion convention the need for compulsory investigation of industrial disputes that strikes may be stopped by law.

A house committee headed by Congressman Graham has been investigating the war grafters. The committee has made this report on the Standard Steel company:

"There were fraud and bribery committed by the government agents, but all such accounts were allowed in full. The company sold a great load of small tools from this plant (the government plant) and removed them clandestinely from their own plant."

Reference was also made by the committee of the sale to the company for $300,000 of buildings and materials which had cost $1,000,000, though there was a bid in for $700,000, which the navigation army officer "concealed from his associates."

WANT SCHOOLS, NOT GUN MEN

Huntington, W. Va., Oct. 29.—Citizens of this county are circulating petitions calling on state officials to oust the cossack system and use the money for public schools and road improvements. The petition declares:

"On account of the number of unemployed in our county, and because of the large felt need for better roads, and in order to extend our system, and put a lot of men into action for the 20,000 or more children now deprived of the privileges and benefits of school in our state, we, the undersigned, offer as our request that the state police be discharged from further service in our county, and the expense of keeping up same be used to employ teachers and building roads, thereby giving employment and education to the needy. We do not believe the services of the state police is needed in this county."

THEATER SIGNS.

Tacoma, Wash., Oct. 29.—The Bijou theater has signed an agreement with the Motion Picture Operators' union.

FEDERAL RAILROAD CONTROL BOLSTERED UP SECURITIES

Atlanta, Oct. 29.—One of the reasons for federal control of railroads "was the preservation of railroad securities from financial demoralization," said Joseph B. Eastman, member of the interstate commerce commission, in a speech in this city.

The speaker said railroad dissension in recent years has been on a painfully low level.

"I am not thinking of the ignorance and demagoguery which always enters into any public controversy, but of discussions from sources which are presumptively intelligent," he said.

"Now I am not speaking of honest criticism. We all need it. We have in mind the propaganda which omits everything that is favorable to the object of which turns the spotlight upon everything that is unfavorable and adds a few lies for good measure.

"The fact that the roads when under federal control failed to earn the so-called standard return by many hundreds of millions of dollars has been offered as proof of the inefficiency of government operation. But I call your attention to the fact that the last six months after the return to private control the deficiency was reduced of $600,000,000; that in the 12 succeeding months following the most tremendous increase ever made to our railroad rates the deficiency was at least $450,000,000, and that it was kept from reaching a still larger sum only by slashing in expenditures which have put the country with one of the largest percentages of bad order cars in its history. There were explanations for these deficiencies. It is true, but no where have explanations for the deficiencies during federal control.

"Take the case of labor. The impression has been spread broadcast that the increases in railroad wages during federal control were the product of intrigue and political pressure. The facts are that the major increases were made upon the recommendation of a bipartisan board of arbitration headed by Franklin K. Lane, which thoroughly considered both sides.

CONGRESS REDUCES HIGH SURTAX SCALE

Washington, Oct. 29. — Both branches of congress have agreed to reduce the 65 per cent surtax—or additional income tax—to 50 per cent. The house favors a reduction to 32 per cent, but this has caused a protest throughout the country that the senate has made the surtax 50 per cent.

Under the senate amendment the surtax started a graduation of the rate on annual incomes from $6,000 to $10,000. Another 1 per cent is added for every additional $2,000 income, until the $200,000 and over income is reached, when a rate of 50 per cent and that he also be allowed an additional $7,500 as president of the Panama railroad, for "entertainment expenses."

It is also stated that henceforth the canal zone will be operated under what anti-unionists term "open" shop.

Samuel Gompers, A. F. of L. metal trades department took the matter up with the secretary of war and the president, but without success.

TYPOS HAVE FAT BANK ROLL.

Toronto, Ontario, Oct. 29.—In pages of advertisement printed in local papers for the benefit of delegates to the annual convention of the Typothetae of America, the International Typographical union presents statistics to refute the claim by some delegates among the employers that the union is financially embarrassed because of efforts to enforce a 44-hour agreement in this city.

It is shown that the union's general fund has a balance of $227,250 since April 20, 1921. The balance in all funds on September 30 was $1,275,000.

"All the union demands is the fulfillment of the agreement with a good faith with employers," says the advertisement.

The International Typographical union has always believed that a contract is but a means of peace.

"It had a contract with employing printers for the eight-hour day in 1905 and has lived with it since.

"If there is any odium connected with the international union's name in the printing industry at this time, it is with the employers who have refused to recognize union."

WORKERS RAISE WAGES.

Port William, Ontario, Canada, Oct. 29.—Organized railway clerks and freight handlers employed by the Western Canada Flour mills have raised wages and retained old working conditions. Rates for truckers and checkers were advanced 4 cents an hour, and loaders and coopers will be paid an additional 5 cents an hour.

WORKERS' WAGES DOWN; OFFICIAL'S SALARY UP

Washington, Oct. 29.—Secretary of War Weeks announced today a retrenchment economical policy in the Panama canal zone, on recommendation of a commission headed by Brigadier General Connor.

Wages of workers are reduced and the many concessions given to the employees while on the Panama when health was menaced by malaria, abolished. These reductions are estimated at $90.36 a month for married men and $60.24 for single men.

The "economy" program stopped with those reductions, for the commission recommended that the salary of the governor of the canal zone be increased 50 per cent and that he also be allowed an additional $7,500 as president of the Panama railroad, for "entertainment expenses."

It is also stated that henceforth the canal zone will be operated under what anti-unions term "open" shop.

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LEAVING INJUNCTION JAIL, UNIONISTS ARE DEFIANT

Hoboken, N. J., Oct. 29.—Eight machinists who are serving a term of imprisonment for violating an injunction, have been released, but are more strongly opposed to the injunction writ than when they entered jail.

The workers are Samuel Petterson, William Murray, Patrick Musto, Abraham Ebert, Vincent Grammona, George Miller, Albert Henry, and Stephen Kuzmiak.

When a strike was called by the Machinists' union against the Erie Motor Appliance company, the workers were enjoined from picketing by the Chancellor Wilentz. The strikers refused to desist telling the judge that they believed they were jailed by the chancellor, who now finds that his un-American order creates a new army of workers.

Before leaving jail the unionists signed a letter of appreciation to district No. 15, International Association of Machinists, which pledges common cause in the fight and for aiding their families while they were in jail.

WANT MORE APPRENTICES.

Toronto, Ontario, Oct. 29.—More apprentices are needed in all branches of the printing industry, according to Wm. J. Eyon, of Washington D. C., secretary-treasurer of the Typothetae of America. The speaker is manager of the International Association of Printing Establishment in Washington.

Mr. Eyon said; "If we will but set a sufficient number of young boys and men to learning the trades and keep up our industry, we will provide a stone-wall insurance against the "open shop" movement and wars on the part of the labor unions."

Capitalize "Water" While Few Control

Washington, Oct. 29.—How $4,000,000 capitalize "water" and manufacturing group large properties in the hands of a few stockholders was disclosed in discussing the revenue bill in the senate.

The case of the Rock Island railroad scandal he said there were but few stockholders in the company. The majority of their stock or a control of the stock was owned by a holding company which owned and it issued its stock. Then a majority of the stock of the holding company was acquired and issued by the holding company for the holding company. Then the majority of the stock in the holding company was acquired and it repeated the operation. That process was repeated five times.

"In the end," said Senator Reed, "a majority of a majority of a majority of a majority controlled the company which were the only companies earning any money or having a dollar of honest investment. The result was that the great system of railroads was placed in a very distressed condition for a considerable period of time."

In the case of the steel trust the lawmaker showed that a number of independent steel companies were taken over by the trust corporation.

The United States steel corporation.

The actual values placed on the properties of these companies was $750,000,000, but the trust issued stock for approximately $2,000,000,000 on the property.

"The stockholders in the various companies entering into the deal had available received that new and largely inflated stock issue, an increase far above the physical value of the property which had been put in.

"There was no longer any danger of an industrial war or a market war between these companies. They had fixed the basic prices, controlled the market and be certain of having no future losses, and of always making a profit.

"It is a well-known fact that this transaction was regarded as so profitable that Andrew Carnegie was paid $100,000,000 more for his property than the valuation he had placed upon it within short time before, and he took his pay very largely in the securities of the new company."

CITIZENS TO URGE LESS ARMS--NATION-WIDE MEETINGS ON NOV. 11

Washington, Oct. 29.—At the conclusion of a two-day session in this city the national disarmament advisory committee invited to convene by President Gompers formed a permanent organization to be known as the general committee for limitation of armament.

The organization will be directed by a board of governors of 21 members and an executive committee of five. These are: Samuel Gompers, honorary chairman, secretary, treasurer and an executive secretary. Offices will be opened in Washington at once.

Membership in the board of governors will be so arranged as to make it representative of each of all organized groups which favor limitation of armament.

The two-day conference, presided over by President Gompers, was remarkable for the unity of view point and for its expression of determination to give force to Mr. Gompers' declaration "for the furthest limit" of disarmament.

In its declaration of principles and purpose the conference said, in part:

"It is not our purpose to attempt to suggest definite proposals to end the war. Such responsibility rests on the appointed representatives of our own and other governments.

"But we believe that a few general principles are self-evident and should be applied. It is equally evident by a great majority of our people that the present burden of armaments are not the only means of destruction. As well be the devastation of the world by its armies and navies, the poison gases and deadly chemical compounds now being discovered in the laboratories of science, and even those which may have a peace-time use, may annihilate civilization. There is no defense against such destruction no disarmament agreement can prevent.

"The limitation of armaments is a good thing in itself. It will save the great wastage of wealth from threatened financial collapse. It is a long step forward but it is not peace.

"The causes of war lie far deeper. The real masters of war are rooted in economic necessities and greed. In paralyzing fear of unprovoked attack, in ancient wrongs not yet righted.

"The agencies of the coming international conference give us reason to believe that together with the limitation of armaments some of the causes of war will be considered.

"It is in this hope and in support of our declaration of principles that we submit on behalf of ourselves and the organizations we represent, to the United States the following confession of faith:

"Our allegiance to the world our deep and abiding faith in democracy is therefore in peace.

"We proclaim to the world a faith that has not been deepened or darkened by fear of enemies or by diplomatic delay and evasion.

"We demand international peace.

"We demand an official policy which shall lead the nations of the world into the thinking of peace, the building for peace, the will to have peace.

"We have just gone through a great war—a war without precedent. This we did for a great cause. We fought for the life of democracy, that its institutions and its spirit might be preserved.

"We are devoted to democracy the right to live and to function.

"In a world organized democratically to confess its inability to use the machinery of democracy for release to the world our faith that the machinery of democracy is sufficient for the needs of mankind. Neither our statement must not be permitted to invest democracy with the antiquated attack, in ancient wrongs not yet righted.

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ROADS IGNORE U. S. BOARD'S FIGURES

Washington, Oct. 29.—Figures on 1917 wages of railroad employes, now being issued by the association of railway executives are in direct conflict with the report of the railroad wage commission appointed by Director General of Railroads McAdoo. The commission consisted of Franklin K. Lane, then secretary of the interior; Charles C. McChord, then interstate commerce commissioner; J. Harry Covington, district of Columbia judge, and William A. Willcox, ex-postmaster of New York city.

This report is a compilation of wages of all railroad employes. Its value lies in the fact that it was compiled from actual payments on pices by men of unquestioned character, and because it refutes the claim now made that wages of railroad employes are excessive.

The commission said:

"It has been a somewhat popular impression that railroad employes were among the most highly paid workers. But figures gathered from the railroads themselves refute this belief. Fifty-one per cent of all employes in the country, in 1917, received $75 per month or less. And 10 per cent received $100 per month or less.

"Even among the locomotive engineers, generally considered the highly paid, a preponderating number received less than $190 per month, and this compensation they have attained by the most compact organization and through long service with a full appreciation of all strategic values. Between the grades ranging from $100 to $150 per month, there is included less than 3 per cent of all the employes (excluding officials) and these suggest the highest men out of a grand total of 2,000,000.

"The greatest number of employes, on all the roads, fall into the class receiving between $60 and $65 per month—181,493; while within the range of the next $10 in monthly salary there is a total of 145,177 workers.

"In December, 1917, there were 115,417 men receiving an annual pay of $900 or less. In 1917 the average pay of this class was but $56.71 per month.

"There were 276,855 section men who averaged as a class $65.31 per month; 121,000 other unskilled laborers whose average pay was $66.19 per month; 124,671 freight road freight brakemen and flagmen whose average pay was $106.12 per month, and 49,000 passenger brakemen and flagmen whose average pay was $91.10 per month.

"These, it is to be noted, are not petty figures; they represent conditions after a year of war, and after the rising prices, and each dollar now represents in its power to purchase a place in which to live, food to eat and clothes to wear, by but 71 cents as against $1.100 cents of January 1, 1916.

"That there has been such steadfast loyalty to the railroads and no strike, is a tribute to the character of their necessity, and their guarantee for a fair wage and consideration, an increase of wages, is not without significance and should not be passed without full appreciation."

Railroads Now Find Shoe on Other Foot

Chicago, Oct. 29.—In their attempt to place their wage-reduction plan on a voluntary basis the railroads find that the shoe is on the other foot, and they are in the position of begging employes to confer with their own medicine.

When the brotherhoods' strike was announced the railroad labor board ordered that the status quo be maintained until they could settle the question.

The railroads and their retainers were in high glee. "Now," they declared, "a strike means defiance of the government, and we can sit back and let the government fight it out for us."

The jubilation was short lived, however, for the railroad labor board ordered the railroads to defer the wage reduction plan until it can settle the strike.

The railroads and their backers are forced into an awkward position and are demanding that men look for obedience to government orders.

DENOUNCE GUN MEN.

Beckley, W. Va., Oct. 29.—At the convention of district No. 29, United Mine Workers, it was declared that the men working in and around the fields of West Virginia and for the past 30 years, have not been allowed to exercise their state and constitutional rights and have been forced to work under the most brutal gun man and gun guard system.

"For the past 12 months the miners of Mingo county, of this state, have been locked out from their homes by coal operators' association, and during this time thousands of our women and children have suffered and murdered, and numbers of our men have given up their lives in this struggle. At the present moment 561 of our members, including the president and many of the officers of both districts in this state, are indicted by framed up juries, charged with conspiracy and murder."

URGE CONCILIATION.

San Jose, Cal., Oct. 29.—Those people who are always dictating on "cuts" in connection with strikes, can join the state federation of labor, which has decided to confer with 8,000 striking employes. The convention of the state federation has appealed to President Harding to "by every means at his command" induce the railroads to sit in conference with the oil workers and the federal oil board, and urge the companies to pursue a policy of making peace in this industry possible.

DEATH RATE RISES.

Washington, Oct. 29.—The government's annual report on mortality statistics for 1920, soon to be issued, shows a total of 1,141,978 deaths within the death registration area, representing a rate of 12.1 per 1,000, as compared with 12.3 in 1919, the lowest on record.

CANADIAN BIG BIZ "PUT OVER" SALES TAX TO SHIFT BURDEN

Edmonton, Alberta, Canada, October 29.—"Big business 'put over' the Canadian sales tax so it could escape profits and luxury taxes," says the Alberta Labor News, official paper of the Alberta federation of labor.

"The sales tax is a measure of taxation which would make a much income tax as the single man and as the family increased his taxes would anywhere from 1 to 3%. The single man would amount to $20 per capita, then the man with the large family will pay $200 per capita. The sales tax is a mean taxation, not according to ability to pay, but according to the number of children.

"The 1921 budget increase in customs duties by 2½ per cent on goods and 2 per cent rates on domestic transactions have become 1½ per cent and 2½ per cent respectively and the import rates 2½ per cent and 4 per cent. We have the minister of finance, Mr. Fielding, stating that one sales tax is included in the budget of 1921 and that it was while the wholesaler may pay that per tax and the retailer the second per tax, the consumer increased.

"A writer in the Monetary Times defended the very principle of the sales tax: According to figures published through this tax, the amount will have to be paid by the consumer in the same manner as the sales tax must be paid by the married man without a family

MINERS RISK LIVES; COAL OWNERS, MONEY

Washington, Oct. 29.—The men who go down into the bowels of the earth to bring coal to the surface endure the hardships of the miner, face and risk nothing but money, said Philip Murray, vice president of the United Mine Workers, testifying before the senate committee that is probing West Virginia mining conditions.

The unionist presented a program that will safeguard the rights of all parties in West Virginia and in peace peace in that industry. The plan includes freedom of speech, assembly and movement; the right to join the union organize and bargain collectively through representatives of their own choosing; protection against discrimination because of membership or non-membership in the United Mine Workers; assurance that these rights will not be subordinated by coal owners employing private detectives and gunmen that victimized union mine workers for the purpose of filling the key positions or to ones equally as good.

"We do not seek to control the coal industry but we demand a voice in its control," said Vice President Murray, who cited the right of coal owners to present a better plan.

In summing up the union's indictment against the coal owners, the unionist said, in substance, that the provider of his amusements, the military officer of his community, often the source of his police protection and, the patron of his physician, his minister and his school teacher.

RAIL LAW CONDEMNED.

Des Moines, Iowa, Oct. 29.—The Esch-Cummins railroad law was condemned at a conference of governors and other state officials of the north central states, which closed here today.

"The Cummins-Esch law," said Governor Blaine of Wisconsin, "discourages efficient and economical management, for it guarantees the carriers a fixed return. Railroad stocks are greatly inflated and the fixed guarantee is upon the inflated stock, thereby increasing the value of stock."

"A guarantee to a private enterprise is dangerous and vicious, yet there is no more justification for guaranteeing a return on private investments than guaranteeing the farmer, merchant, manufacturer, professional man or woman a return. Under the Cummins-Esch law the transportation companies have found an excuse for organizing subsidiary companies with per-cent tailed assets in connection with transportation which results in further increasing the burdens of rates."

FAVOR ANTI-LYNCH BILL.

Washington, Oct. 29.—The Dyer anti-lynching bill, imposing heavy penalties on persons involved in mob violence resulting in taking of life, has been favorably reported by the house judiciary committee.

HOLY COAL OWNERS FIGHT FOR LIBERTY

Charleston, W. Va., Oct. 29.—"The secret of why the benevolent coal owners of Logan, Mingo and McDowell coal fields of West Virginia has been discovered," says Editor Brisbin of the West Virginia Federationist.

"They are not opposed to unionism as such—that is the right kind of unionism." They are willing to take unionism—by the many—if only for one thing—it 'interferes with the miners' individual right to contract.'

"While the coal owners are not adverse to making a few pennies out of the miners, economically, and all—far above all—they seek to protect inviolate the great fundamental liberties which are the heritage of the American people.

"There is no danger to our organization so long as this noble and patriotic body of men are willing to lay aside all selfish interests and keep their profits—for those glorious rights for which our forefathers fought, bled and some of whom died.

"Here is how this gallant band of patriots would have it: Somewhere No man, woman or child can get a job in the mines of West Virginia, unless they use their individual right to sign a contract that binds them to 'refrain from joining the United Mine Workers of America or any other such union, so long as—oh, benevolent bosses—they permitteth me to work in your mines.'

"Under the contract they would be individual rights of outlined, and the benevolent owners provide a private standing army of police a with high-powered rifles and machine guns to protect the sacred sacred rights being entrenched upon.

"Of course, the miner gets no 'say' in any of these holy proceedings, but if he accepts the job he is contented with having his 'rights' protected. Let him be thankful that there are such good and patriotic patriots to look after his interests. It saves the miner the trouble."

FAVOR RAILROAD BILL.

Washington, Oct. 29.—The senate committee on interstate commerce has decided to report favorably the bill that would pay the railroads for the loss and postpone their debts of an equal amount to the government.

The limited legislation will permit the railroads to buy equipment and give work to unemployed. It was decided at a committee conference, called by the president, President Harding, and Director General of Locomotive Firemen, suggested that the bill be indorsed with the understanding that the money be used for equipment. Advocates of the measure say that orders placed under these conditions will be distributed without discrimination.

The brotherhood official said that if forced to strike for a 25 a month increase they would use only $500,000,000 to pay deferred dividends to stockholders.

REJECT LOW WAGE OFFER.

New York, Oct. 29.—Teamsters' union No. 807 rejected the latest offer that wages be reduced 15 a week with a 10-hour day. Present rates are $30 to $35 a week for 48 hours and $31 to $35 for chauffeurs, with a nine-hour day.